

ENHANCING THE MEDICATION SAFETY OF INFANTS AND CHILDREN

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Background and Purposes: The medication safety knowledge of main caregivers of infants and children directly or indirectly affect the infants/children's health. This study purpose was aimed to enhance the medication safety knowledge and ability of the main caretakers of infants/children, and help them to clearly describe the physical conditions of infants/children, understand the explanation of the usage of medicine bag, exactitude takes medicine, as well as to discuss with pharmacist when have medication problem or questions.

Methods: The subjects chosen from the main caregivers for infants and children while they take baby to received vaccination at a local health center in July 2010. Based on the medication safety need assessment found that the subjects lack of medication safety knowledge. Therefore, the researcher designed medication safety materials for medication safety education, including:(1) clearly describe the physical conditions of infants/children when go to medical clinic;(2) understand the explanation of the usage of medicine bag; (3) understand the medication usage and exactitude takes medicine; (4) to discuss with pharmacist or doctor when have medication problem or questions. To promote the main caregiver medication safety while the take care infants and children. After medication safety education, the closed end questionnaire was used to evaluate the effects of the medication safety educational program by telephone.

Results: After medication safety education for the main caregivers, the score of the medication safety knowledge of the main caregivers was increased from 79.22 to 98.15, show that the medication safety education was effective.

Conclusions: This study may be of impotence in Enhancing the Medication Safety of Infants and Children. As well as providing the community health workers with a better understanding of how to promote and enhance the medication safety of Infants and Children.